

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY****Remarks**

Claims 1-14 are allowed. No claims are amended. New independent claim 20 is added. No new subject matter is added. Claims 1-20 are now active in the case, and allowance of claims 15-20 is requested in light of the following remarks:

**Allowable Subject Matter**

Claims 1-14 are allowed.

Claims 17-19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but are otherwise indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. At this time, the applicant wishes to maintain claims 17-19 in their present form so that the remarks made below with respect to claim 15 may be fully considered.

**Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claims 15, 16 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,414,618 to Jacobson ("Jacobson"). The applicant disagrees.

In order to anticipate a claim, a single prior art reference must show the identical invention in as complete detail as contained in the claim. MPEP 2131.

Claim 15 recites, *inter alia*, a method for leveling a tipped shade *that is securely attached* to a shade supporting device (emphasis added).

To the contrary, Jacobson indicates that the shade 4 is securely affixed only after the shade has been leveled using the screws 21, 22, and 23 (column 2, lines 57-63). In other words, Jacobson teaches a method for leveling a tipped shade that is *not* securely attached to a shade supporting device (emphasis added).

Consequently, claim 15 is not anticipated by Jacobson because it fails to show the identical invention in as complete detail as contained in the claim. MPEP 2131.

Claims 16 and 18 depend from claim 15 and inherently contain the features of claim 15. Consequently, Jacobson also fails to anticipate claims 16 and 18 because it does not show the identical invention in as complete detail as contained in the claims. MPEP 2131.

**New Claim 20**

It is suggested that claim 15 does not preclude the shade from being returned to position by a person manually tilting it back.

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

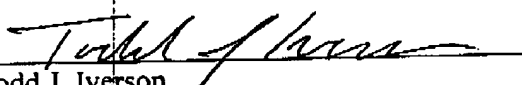
In keeping with this suggestion, new claim 20 is added. Claim 20 is directed at a shade leveler that includes, *inter alia*, a self-leveling apparatus, the self-leveling apparatus structured to return the shade to a level position on the shade supporting device after the shade has been displaced from the level position and structured to return the shade to the level position without manual adjustment of the self-leveling apparatus. Claim 20 is fully supported by the original application at, e.g., claim 15 and at page 5, lines 28-32.

Contrary to claim 20, Jacobson does not disclose a self-leveling apparatus structured to return the shade to a level position on the shade supporting device without manual adjustment of the self-leveling apparatus. This is demonstrated by Jacobson at column 2, lines 57-60, where it is taught that the shade 4 is leveled by adjusting screws 21, 22, and 23.

**Conclusion**

For the above reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 15-20 is requested. Please telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

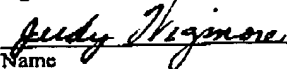
Respectfully submitted,  
MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, P.C.

  
Todd J. Iverson  
Reg. No. 53,057

MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, P.C.  
1030 SW Morrison Street  
Portland, OR 97205  
503-222-3613  
Customer No. 20575

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office via facsimile number (703) 872-9306, on April 15, 2005.

Signature

  
Name